WINTER WATCH

SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER

The BCCI Affair as a Template for the New Underworld Order Crime Syndicate

October 25, 2025 Russ Winter Articles by Russ Winter, Business, Crime, International News, Politics, US News, Winter Watch Articles 8

THE TAMPA TRIBUNE

96th Year — No. 181 Metro Tampa, Florida, Monday, July 30, 1990 66 Pages — 25 Cents

Jury finds BCCI bankers guilty

6 face jail terms for laundering cash

By TOM BRENNAN
Tribune Staff Writer

TAMPA — While family and friends wailed and sobbed, five international bankers were immediately jailed after being convicted of money laundering Sunday.

The five former officers of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI), plus a Colombian aircraft broker reputed to be a top lieutenant in the Medellin crug cartel, were convicted of nearly all the charges they faced — charges that they laundered $14 million generated from cocaine sales in six U.S. cities.

The convictions capped a five-year investigation, a two-year undercover sting operation, a six-month trial and seven days of jury deliberations.

It was the first time international bankers have been found guilty of breaking U.S. money-laundering laws. Prosecutors hailed the verdicts as a significant victory in the nation's drug war.

"It shows that bankers and those who sit inside the ivory towers of our society are not immune from prosecution because they wear gray suits and don't touch the stops," said Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark Jackowski.

"The message is now very clear — if you violate the law, you will be prosecuted, and if convicted, you will go to jail no matter who you are or how much money is behind you."

Defense attorneys viewed appeals, but had few other comments.

Gary Trombley, attorney for defendant banker Sibte Hassan, said sequestering the jurors prepared them to convict, so they could re-

See BANKERS, Page 2A

Three BCCI bankers head to the courthouse in Tampa Sunday morning to hear verdicts. They are, from left, Syed Hussain, Amjad Awan and Akbar Bilgrami. In back are Tampa Police Major Jim Sigmon, left, and Lt. K.C. Newcomb.

Tribune photograph by JAY CONNER

The Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) was the 7th largest private bank in the world, operating in 78 countries with assets in excess of $20 billion. In 1988, after a two-year undercover operation, money-laundering, narcotics, and conspiracy charges were filed in Tampa against 15 individuals — some of them BCCI officers — and four corporations. SOURCE: Flmd.uscourts.gov

MEME OF THE DAY

Just offloaded some data center construction debt to a schoolteacher's 401k

HAVE YOU SEEN

The Necessity of Incendiary Bombing Japan Was Another Evil Deception

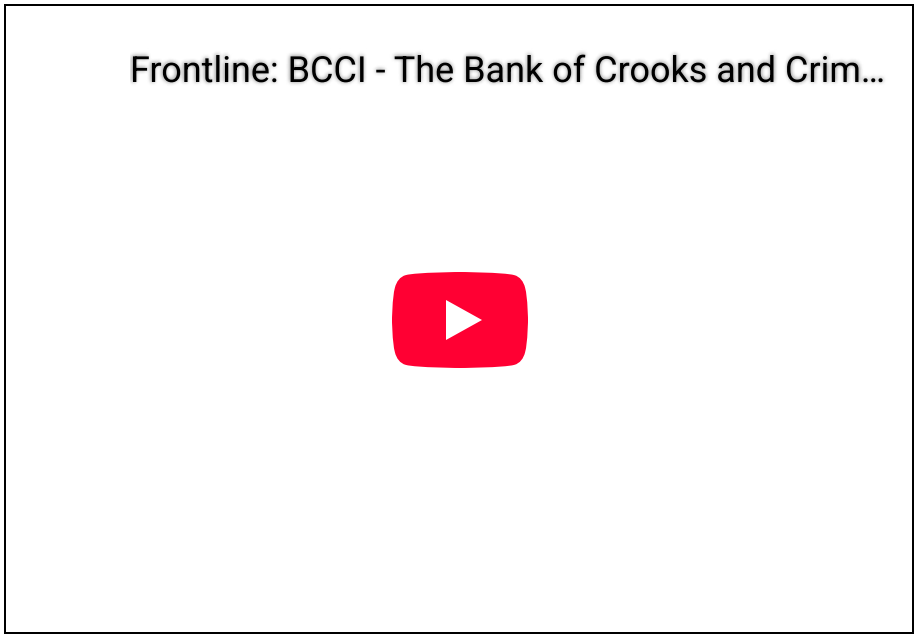
August 11, 2025

37

Between 1991 and '92, the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) bankster scheme broke. It was investigated by former U.S. Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) (U.S. Senate's Committee on Foreign Relations) at that time, who put some color on it. In particular, a strong odor of institutional capture was noted. It's but one aspect of what we call the "Crime Syndicate" on these pages. [Report available at https://fas.org/irp/congress/1992_rpt/bcci/index.html]

If you're not familiar with the BCCI Affair, the following videos provide a little flavor.

Frontline: BCCI – The Bank of Crooks and Criminals



Kerry's report noted:

> In going after BCCI, New York District Attorney Morgenthau's office quickly found that in addition to fighting off the bank, it would receive resistance from almost every other institution or entity connected to BCCI, including at various times, BCCI's multitude of prominent and politically well-connected lawyers, BCCI's accountants, BCCI's shareholders, the Bank of England, the British Serious Fraud Office, and the U.S. Department of Justice. Each, while professing to

Important Clue About 1968 RFK Assassination

May 15, 2024 5

Britain's Genocidal Starvation of the Irish — or So-Called 'Potato Famine'

March 12, 2024 41

Jewish Conference to Study 'Dominating' Role of Jews in Communism

November 6, 2017 3

Aldous Huxley's Philosophy and Schemes Involving Psychedelic Drugs

June 10, 2025 29

FULL WEBSITE ARCHIVE

Select Month

>> CLICK HERE TO VIEW MEME ARCHIVE

PODCASTS

> cooperate with the District Attorney, in fact withheld information from the District Attorney and in some cases, impede[ed], delay[ed], or obstruct[ed] his inquiry for months.
>
> Ultimately, Morgenthau proved BCCI's criminality, not because of information or cooperation provided by other government agencies — but because BCCI had left a trail of evidence of wrongdoing there for anyone with the tenacity to pursue it.

BCCI, founded in 1972 by Pakistani banker Agha Hasan Abedi and defunct in 1991, had 3,000 criminal customers, and every one of those 3,000 criminal customers is a Page 1 story. You could find financing for nuclear weapons, gun running and narcotics dealing, and you would find all manner and means of crime around the world in the records of this bank.

The 'Pride of Pakistan,' BCCI founder Agha Hasan Abedi (aka Agha Sahab)

Under Morgenthau's theory of the case, BCCI had from the beginning never had the assets it purported to have, but relied on the reputations of prominent people to provide it with the aura of wealth and respectability it needed.

He saw BCCI as a massive, multi-billion dollar confidence scheme, whose collapse was inevitable if the facade BCCI had so carefully constructed were ever ripped away. During the months prior to his July 29, 1991, indictment of BCCI, the New York grand jury had heard witness after witness detail the mechanisms by which the facade had been maintained. Upon hearing those details, they indicted.

Raw Deal with Fetzer, Hoquiam and Winter

October 23, 2025
7

Fearsome Threesome with Jim Fetzer, Susan Bradford and

October 16, 2025
8

"Fearsome Threesome" edition with Jim Fetzer, Russ Winter and Joachim Hagopian

October 9, 2025
1

Raw Deal with Fetzer, Hoquiam and Winter

September 26, 2025 0

Raw Deal: Jim Fetzer, Joaquim Hagopian, Russ Winter

September 18, 2025 8

"Fearsome Threesome" edition with Russ Winter, Joachim Hagopian and James Fetzer

September 11, 2025 0

The New York District Attorney found that among the major actions taken by BCCI to carry out its fraud were:

> ** Employing the ruling families of a number of Middle Eastern states as nominees for BCCI, who pretended to be at risk in BCCI but who were in fact guaranteed to be held harmless by BCCI for any actual losses.
>
> ** Using bank secrecy havens including Luxembourg and the Cayman Islands to avoid regulation on a consolidated basis by any single regulator of BCCI, and thereby to permit BCCI to transfer assets and liabilities from bank to bank as needed to conceal BCCI's true economic status.
>
> ** Paying bribes and kickbacks to agents of other banking and financial institutions, thereby avoiding the scrutiny of regulators.

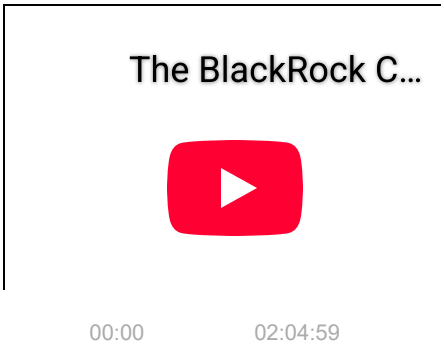
The *Desert News* in 1992 helped explain how this international banking Crime Syndicate affected average Americans:

> "There are a variety of connections between Milken, Keating, Paul and various BCCI entities that got involved in maneuvering money for the various players in the savings and loan world," [BCCI investigator Jack] Blum said. He referred to three of the largest financial scandals in the 1980s: Michael Milken and the downfall of Drexel Burnham Lambert; Charles Keating and Lincoln Savings and Loan; and Paul of CenTrust.

BCCI Variants 1 and 2, Intel and Kompromat Operations

We are particularly interested in how BCCI operated as an intelligence agency. In the book "Outlaw Bank" by Jonathan Beaty comes this passage [via TIME magazine]:

THE BLACKROCK CONSPIRACY



TAG CLOUD

(P)HARMA INDUSTRY SKULDUGGER
9/11 ASTUTE COMMENTARY
BANKSTERS / FINANCIAL MANIPULA
BATTLE AGAINST DEGENERACY
BRAINWASHING & PROPAGANDA
CONTROL OF THE INTERNET
CULTURAL MARXISM
DEBT SLAVERY
ECONOMIC STATECRAFT

> *[A] clandestine division of the bank called the Black Network, which functions as a global intelligence operation and a mafia-like enforcement squad … [T]he 1,500-employee Black Network has used sophisticated spy equipment and techniques, along with bribery, extortion, kidnapping and even, by some accounts, murder.*

Why [BCCI founder] Agha Hasan Abedi and his rogue bank went unprosecuted for so long is the enduring question at the heart of the BCCI Affair. From "Outlaw Bank":

> *The simple answer is that his watch-me-break-all-the-rules act relied upon the near-absolute complicity of many sovereign governments. High government officials and* ***financial regulators around the world knew what the bank was doing****, and yet they created the deep silence that cloaked BCCI's global operations.*
>
> *Perhaps the most disturbing aspect of the BCCI affair* ***in the United States*** *was the failure of U.S. government and federal law enforcement to move against the outlaw bank. Instead of swift retribution, what took place over more than a decade was a* ***cover-up*** *of major, alarming proportions, often orchestrated from the very* ***highest levels of government****.*
>
> *This 'bank' possessed its very own diplomatic corps … its own shipping … companies. Taken collectively, it was more of an armed Renaissance city-state of Machiavelli's era than a modern corporation.*

Although BCCI itself as a bank collapsed, the operatives behind it largely went untouched and created more layers to shield themselves from sunlight. This should be called the B2 variant. In fact, huge fraud is now de facto legal in the U.S.

From the 1992 Kerry report:

FAUX DEMOCRACY & VOTING FRAU
FIGHT CLUB MEMES & TACTICS
GEORGE SOROS SKULLDUGGERY
GLOBALIZATION
GMO & TOXINS
GRAND SOLAR MINIMUM / COLD SL
GREENWASHING
IDENTITARIANS
ISRAEL & ZIONISM
JEWISH POWER & INFLUENCE
MEDIA LIES & FABRICATIONS
MEME ARCHIVE
MIGRATION AS WEAPONIZED WAR
MUSLIM DEMONIZATION AGITPROF
NEOCONS NEOLIBERALS
NEW UNDERWORLD ORDER
POLICE STATE / BIG BROTHER
RACE INDUSTRY SCAMDEMIC
SOCIAL ENGINEERING
STAGED DECEPTIONS & FALSE FLAG
STAR CHAMBER JUSTICE
SUB-ZERO KAKISTOCRACY
SUPPRESSED & HIDDEN HISTORY
SUPPRESSION OF FREE SPEECH
THE 5G BEAST
THREATS TO SOUTH AFRICAN WHIT

> *[BCCI founder] Abedi developed in BCCI an ideal mechanism for facilitating illicit activity by others … it's at least somewhat likely that it's headquartered in the U.S.*

Among first-world countries, the U.S. is uniquely hospitable to people who want to leverage shell companies to hide their financing of illegal activity.

To our sensibilities, it seems Jeffrey Epstein fit the profile of the top executives at BCCI 1.0. Epstein committed many of the kompromat crimes committed by BCCI Variant 1. In fact we hold that the BCCI 1 and Epstein's new generation variant is one and the same. The dossiers of the two variants are combined.

From an August 2019 article:

> *Police say Epstein was sexually abusing girls as young as 13, many of them from poor families and broken homes. And, according to **lawsuits filed by victims**, **Epstein loaned** them out to his famous friends.*

From "The Outlaw Bank":

> *The protocol department [of BCCI] was also responsible for sweeping the countryside in search of another kind of prey: very young girls for the entertainment of the sheikhs and Middle-Eastern businessmen.*
>
> *[T]he wife of a Pakistani doctor was in charge of rounding up the girls and bringing them to Karachi to be outfitted in proper clothes before being presented to the princely clients. Often she would shepherd more than 50 girls at a time through a department store, shopping for jewelry and dresses. This practice was so successful — far more effective than giving away microwave ovens or toasters — that the bank would spend as much as $100,000 on such an evening's entertainment. According to the Senate testimony of Nazir*

TRANSHUMANIST SCHEMING

TRUE CRIME

WHITE DEMONIZATION AGITPROP

YOU CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP

> *Chinoy, Madame Rahim would also "interview girls, women, and take them … to Abu Dhabi for a dancing show or arrange some singing shows." Throughout the Middle East, "dancing girls" and "singing girls" are euphemisms for prostitutes; Chinoy chose to be tactful before the TV cameras.*

From an August 2019 article in *The New York Times* titled "The Day Jeffrey Epstein Told Me He Had Dirt on Powerful People":

> *The overriding impression I took away from our roughly 90-minute conversation was that Mr. Epstein knew an astonishing number of rich, famous and powerful people, and had photos to prove it.* ***He also claimed to know a great deal about these people, some of it potentially damaging or embarrassing, including details about their supposed sexual proclivities and recreational drug use.***

From "The Outlaw Bank":

> *According to [BCCI employee] Masri, the protocol officers … were also responsible … for* ***luring businessmen, military officers, and politicians into Abedi's web of intrigue through a combination of favors, money, blackmail [my emphasis], and intimidation.***

From an August 2019 Daily Beast article:

> ***"I was told Epstein 'belonged to intelligence' and to leave it alone,"*** *[said Alex Acosta, re: the non-prosecution plea deal that Acosta — then the U.S. Attorney in Miami, Florida — provided to Epstein in 2007. Epstein had been accused of unlawful sex with minors and prostitution, but ended up pleading guilty to two counts of soliciting prostitution from a minor.]*

From "The Outlaw Bank":

> *The strange and still-murky ties between BCCI and the intelligence agencies of several countries are so pervasive that even the White House has become entangled. As TIME reported … the National Security Council has used BCCI to funnel money for the Iran-Contra deals, and the CIA maintained accounts in BCCI for covert operations. Moreover, investigators have told TIME* ***that the Defense Intelligence Agency has maintained a slush-fund account with BCCI, apparently to pay for clandestine activities.***

From "The BCCI Affair":

> *BCCI was not a bank which made an adequate return on investment through lending out depositors funds like other banks,* ***but a "Ponzi scheme," which used new depositors funds to pay current expenses and to repay earlier depositors*** *…*
>
> *For BCCI's 1.4 million depositors who had placed an estimated $20 billion with the bank, there would be less than $2 billion of real assets to pay them [after BCCI was shuttered] …*

[From 1990 BCCI case in Tampa, Fla.] (left to right) Cocaine seized from a Chelsea warehouse; suitcases of cash; each bundle of cash held bills of the same denomination, and the bundles in each shipment usually totaled the same amount, so launderers could easily approximate the full amount of cash in a suitcase. SOURCE: Flmd.uscourts.gov

From the August 2019 article in *The New York Times* titled "Jeffrey Epstein's Opaque Finances Could Become Focal Point for Investigators":

> *The money … would flow among …* ***dozens of*** *bank accounts,* ***shell companies*** *and, at times, charities linked to*

> *high-powered friends.*

From a 2017 report published by the OECD:

> *The only purpose of a shell company is to hide the identity of the true owner of the money passing through it, or "beneficial ownership" as it is called by tax authorities and others combating illegal financial flows and tax avoidance.*

From the 2019 book "Epstein: Dead Men Tell No Tales — Spies, Lies and Blackmail," by Steven Hoffenberg, who was Epstein's business partner, implies Epstein worked for Israeli and other intelligence. A consensus has developed that Epstein acted as liaison between Bear Stearns and BCCI during Israel-Iran-Contra. :

> *Hoffenberg told reporter Doug Montero …*
>
> *Jeffrey Epstein had worked in Europe [**during the 1980s**]. … He was very heavily involved in the illegal side of the business, of the **money laundering, the spying, the arms sales**. I'm sure there was some legitimate components that wouldn't be criminal, but the majority of his work product was criminal.*
>
> *At this late hour of many years later, I like being concise and I don't want to misquote, but I can tell you that they sold armament throughout the Middle East and around the world.*

Clues on how the entire sistema is filled from top to bottom with sociopaths: From a 2011 article in U.K. newspaper *The Independent*:

> *My companion, a senior UK investment banker and I, are discussing the most successful banking types we know and what makes them tick. I argue that they often conform to the characteristics displayed by social psychopaths. To my surprise, my friend agrees.*

> *He then makes an astonishing confession: "At one major investment bank for which I worked, **we used psychometric testing to recruit social psychopaths because their characteristics exactly suited them to senior corporate finance roles."***

BANKSTERS / FINANCIAL MANIPULATIONS

NEW UNDERWORLD ORDER

PREVIOUS ARTICLE **NEXT ARTICLE**

RELATED ARTICLES

Bill Gates REFUSES to reveal why he flew on Lolita Express with Jeffrey Epstein four years AFTER his release from prison while the billionaire was still chairman of Microsoft

How Bill Gates Impeded Global Access to Covid Vaccines

Goldman Sachs Declares War on White Men: Refuses IPOs for Companies Lacking 'Diversity,' Whose Directors Are All Straight White Men

8 COMMENTS ON THE BCCI AFFAIR AS A TEMPLATE FOR THE NEW UNDERWORLD ORDER CRIME SYNDICATE

Johnny Walker Read JANUARY 15, 2020 AT 2:02 PM

Seems as that “good old boy” and peanut farmer president from Georgia was not as good a Christian as he pretended. “When BCCI began its surreptitious takeover of First American, Jimmy Carter was President of the United States. The point man for that takeover, of course, was the President’s close personal friend and former Director of the Office of Management and Budget, T. Bertram Lance.” https://fas.org/irp/congress/1992_rpt/bcci/16ga.htm

Loading...

REPLY

Winter Watch JANUARY 15, 2020 AT 2:16 PM

Really makes one wonder what the social and other mechanisms are for these actors to become friends. Who made the introductions, how did they meet? What drove the so called friendship?

Loading...

REPLY

nedlern JANUARY 15, 2020 AT 6:10 PM

I’d like to think Carter had his hands full with other issues and believed the BS. It is always hard to know to what extent people in powerful positions understand or are privy to the scale of constructs like BCCI. They may know it’s shady but not aware of the extent and reach…or they may have been in on the original construct and intentions from the beginning…

Loading...

REPLY

Darryl JANUARY 15, 2020 AT 9:04 PM

The social mechanisms that these scum meet each other and become friends are fraternal organizations. I'm not just talking the masons but they're all modeled similarly, thousands of them, with the lower degrees given out to the ignorant, altruistic pajama people, and the higher degrees used as a vetting process to ascertain the initiate's level of psychopathy to confirm they can handle the truth that lucifer is their god.

Loading...

REPLY

matrixawakening JANUARY 17, 2020 AT 1:52 PM

One thing should be clear to everyone here – there is no such thing as an honest, well-capitalized bank under fractional reserve banking (FRB). They are all Ponzi schemes allowed legally to exist. It is a legalized fraud. They print credits from thin air (without a proper consideration) and book them as "deposits", which are no deposts at all but actually credits to the bank. FRB means that the bank has only a fraction of the deposits at hand, because it has expandee its balance sheet out of thin air. If a bank credit goes bad, it has to write it off against equity capital, but in reality it has no real loss of substance amd can circumvent the accounting requirement with extend and pretend (that the loan will be paid back). Or otherwise it can get bailed out by the govt or the central bank, which can inflate all asset prices, provide emergency loans, buy off the problematic loans etc. FRB is the major power giving tool to the Frankists.

Loading...

REPLY

Eddie88 APRIL 2, 2022 AT 6:38 PM

New World Order 1992- Eustace mullins.

Former OSS Col. Paul Helliwell became head of the prestigious Miami law firm, Helliwell, Melrose and DeWolf. His partner, Mary Jane Melrose, was attorney for Resorts International, a Vesco-Lansky operation in which Nixon's friend Rebozo was said to have an interest. Helliwell opened the Castle Bank in the Bahamas to launder drug payoffs for Thailand poppy growers. As Thai consul, his Washington correspondent was Rowe and Cork, close advisors to President Lyndon B. Johnson, and representatives of United Fruit (a Cabot-CIA connection), Libby and other large firms. Helliwell was also attorney for General Development Corp., Lansky's real estate firm which was run for him by Louis Chesler. As counsel for Miami Natl Bank, Helliwell laundered mob funds through Swiss banks. One of his associates was Wallace Groves, who served several years for mail fraud. Helliwell died one Christmas Eve, 64 years old, and had never been charged with a crime.
Protected by powerful friends in the Mob and the CIA he epitomized the ties between organized crime, intelligence agencies and the national government, all overseen, of course, by the World order.
This cozy arrangement was for a time epitomized by the operations of the BCCI, now popularly known as "the Bank of Crooks and Criminals International".

Originating as an Arab bank in the Orient, it soon became the bank of choice for
many types of surreptitious financial dealings, including financing drug operations in
many countries, handling secret funds of many intelligence organizations, including
the CIA, and financing political activities throughout the world. Through veteran
Washington insider Clark Clifford, personal adviser to many Presidents since Harry
Truman, with whom he began his career in the White House, BCCI bought First
Virginia Bank in Washington, a bank which had long had close CIA ties. Although
BCCI carried out its multitudinous assignments with great aplomb, Israel became
jealous of its growing importance, and the Bank of England suddenly precipitated its
collapse, citing as its reason financial practices which Middle Eastern banking
experts have assured this writer were quite acceptable, and of which the Bank of
England has been aware for several years. The reason behind the scenes was
probably another of those sudden financial coups which reap great rewards for a
few insiders, while leaving depositors and investors holding an empty bag.
Miami Natl Bank, which is now owned by Citibank was known for many years to
be controlled by Meyer Lansky. The bank financed the Outrigger Club, which
became a meeting place for Santos Trafficante Jr., Philadelphia mobster and
members of the Gambino family. Chase Natl Bank lost $20 million in this operation,
Page121
but chose not to make any complaint about it.
https://www.heritage-history.com/site/hclass/secret_societies/ebooks/pdf/mullins_order.pdf

Loading...

REPLY

Robert Wells DECEMBER 15, 2023 AT 3:58 PM

I was wondering what the Zionist angle was behind Morgenthau's prosecution of the case. Obviously, Israeli criminal enterprises wouldn't like the gentile competition. At the time, Arab oil sheikdoms were relatively hostile to Israel. The benefits of bringing down BCCI outweighed screwing over a devout Zionist such as Clark Clifford.

John Kerry is doing double duty by providing a limited hangout for the WASPish side of his Russell and Company ancestors while diverting attention away from any motives for Zionists to want BCCI to be shutdown.

Loading...

REPLY

Jim Rockforf DECEMBER 15, 2023 AT 2:51 AM

I'm getting old and recall has left the building.
Wasn't Jimmy Carters mom a secretary for ol' Joe Kennedy?
Jimmy is a half brother to JFK and RFK.
– matrixawakeing – Nice review of FRL. And then the banks can loan 1,000 to 1 on the phony deposits.

Loading...

REPLY

Post a Comment

AUTHORS

RUSS WINTER
published 966 articles

THOMAS MÜLLER
published 222 articles

TORCHY BLANE
published 166 articles

SUBSCRIBE

Enter your email address to subscribe to Winter Watch and receive notifications of new posts by email.

Email Address

Subscribe

Join 1,628 other subscribers

META

Register

Log in

Entries feed

Comments feed

WordPress.org

PSA

Copyright © 2025 | MH Magazine WordPress Theme by MH Themes